



Saguaro National Park (West)

Naturalist Program Schedule

Programs meet at the Red Hills Visitor Center, 2700 N. Kinney Road, and last 30 to 45 minutes, unless noted otherwise. All programs are subject to change. Call the visitor center at (520) 733-5158 for updates. See www.nps.gov/sagu for other programs.

July 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25, 26 10:45 a.m. **Living With Giants** Talk: 30 minutes

The saguaro celebrates events and faces challenges throughout its life. A biologist explains how it provides shelter and substance for wildlife; when it flowers; its growth patterns; and how it fights for survival against drought, lightning, frost, and other dangers. *Wheelchair accessible.*

July 7, 21 2:15 p.m. **Puma: Predator, Prey, and Peril** Talk: 45 minutes

Often called puma, cougar, or mountain lion, discover the true nature of this secretive, nocturnal and elusive predator. Explore the threats that this creature faces as it struggles to survive within an ever-shrinking habitat. *Wheelchair accessible.*

July 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25 2:15 p.m. **The CCC in Saguaro NP** Talk: 45 minutes

The Civilian Conservation Corps was a Great Depression-era work program that greatly influenced national, state, and county parks. Saguaro's trails, picnic areas, and scenic drives were established during this program. Old photos and movie clips illustrate a brief history of the CCC in this area. *Wheelchair accessible.*

July 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25 9:45 a.m. **Signs of Life in the Desert** Walk: 40 minutes

Life abounds in the desert but often is hard to see because many creatures either come out at night or are shy and secretive. Most, however, leave signs of their existence. Join a park ranger for a short walk, part of it in a wash, near the Visitor Center to search for evidence of animal life.

July 4, 18, 25 1:15 p.m. **Lizards are Hot, Lizards are Cool** Talk: 30 minutes

Frequently overlooked, discover how these small denizens of the desert become a critical component of our desert community. *Wheelchair accessible.*

July 2, 3, 6, 20, 21, 27, 28 9:45 a.m. **Neighborhood Characters** Walk: 40 minutes, 100 yards

An easy walk in the Cactus Garden will bring visitors face to thorns with plants that remind them of people they know, including "Bill Gates". *Wheelchair accessible.*

July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 2:15 p.m. **How Do They Do It?** Walk: 15 minutes, 100 yards

Discover how the plants and animals of the Sonoran Desert have adapted to the harsh conditions of this unique environment. *Wheelchair accessible.*

July 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 3:15 p.m. **Whales in the Desert** Talk: 45 minutes

Learn about the unique connection between whales and the Sonoran Desert. *Wheelchair accessible.*

July 8, 22 10:45 a.m. **Life Cycle of the Saguaro: Seed to Giant** Walk: 45 minutes, 100 yards

Hear some astonishing reasons about why so few Saguaro seeds make it to fruition.

July 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 2:15 p.m. **Against All Odds** Talk: 30 minutes

A saguaro might produce 40 million seeds in its lifetime, but only one or two seedlings will survive into maturity. Discover how the deck is stacked against their survival and what is needed for growth. *Wheelchair accessible.*